



Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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and as such I designate all that enter the garden of their own volition and not of mine, but when I have introduced a plant, sown an annual, or bought a biennial, I am grateful if it makes itself at home and reappears another year. There is a white-bracted Eryngium that I purchased, unknowing that it was but annual or biennial, and mourned over its death, but in later years I have had half a dozen masses of its graceful forms flowering in July and August. By happy chance the first seedlings were not uprooted, they were so very like in their first leaves the Marsh Marigolds that had they not been in an out-of-the-way spot and so given the benefit of a slight doubt they would have been cast away. All these annuals and biennials self-sown are autumn sown, they survive the winter as young plants and increase in strength. *Limnanthes Douglasi* does this in the crevices of the rock garden, coming year after year with a great profusion of flowers. The self-sown of the perennials are not so desirable because one may soon have too many of any one thing. The seeds of the day lilies, of some of the irises, of the summer snowflake, of *Alstrœmeria*, had better not be allowed to shed themselves when once one has enough of them. The great Mullein seeds itself, but though it is a wild plant, I first brought it into the garden, and it is kind enough to reproduce itself just as much as I want of it and no more.

S. ARMITT.

SENIOR ART CLUB.

This Club is open to any readers of the *Review*, either lady or gentleman. The terms are 6s. for six months. All work marked for exhibition is criticised by Mr. David Murray, A.R.A., on the yearly "Pupils' Show Day," in Miss Stewart Wood's studio, Vine Court Studio, Holland Street, Kensington. All particulars of the Club can be obtained from Miss A. Y. Davidson, Secretary, 41, Bessborough Gardens, London, S.W.

MAY TO NOVEMBER, 1901.

Subjects for October.

I.—*Brown and Gold.* This leaves a wide range for the imagination, and I recommend the more advanced students to choose subjects to please themselves.

II.—*A Study in Red and Green.* The very natural suggestion given by this title is a study of apples with their leaves, or a mass of them fallen on the grass. It is a subject often given, but one that presents endless variety of beauty.

OUR WORK.

Parents' Review School.—In Classes II. and III. French History should be omitted this Term.

The Children's Quarterly is issued by the Reading Branch Natural History Club, price 2s. 2d., post free for the year, or 6½d. per copy. It should be ordered from Mrs. Stanley Hayward, Hazelwood, Kendrick Road, Reading. There is also a Quarterly Portfolio of paintings, particulars of which can be obtained from Mrs. Hart-Davis, Dunsden Vicarage, Reading. The Botanical Portfolio is managed by Dr. Stansfield, 120, Oxford Road, Reading. Instructions as to quarterly subjects of study for these portfolios are printed in *The Children's Quarterly*.

BOOKS.

Studies of Lakeland Birds, by Mary L. Armitt (G. Middleton, Ambleside, 1/-). Another bird book from Miss M. L. Armitt is a possession to rejoice in. Readers of the *Parents' Review* have already had to thank the author for the opportunity of sharing her peculiarly tender intimacy with various of the feathered peoples. Lakeland birds are birds of almost anywhere in Britain—the Whinchat, the Titmice, the Tree-Creeper, the Garden Warbler, the Pied Wagtail, and the rest, are friends available and delightful almost anywhere. What we want is an introduction from someone who is already an intimate of theirs, and such an introduction Miss M. L. Armitt gives

with a grace and charm all her own. This is no mere text-book about birds: every sentence is a note of patient and most sympathetic observation. This, for example, about the house-building of the Pied Fly-catcher: "If she is a young hen, or if the nest be entirely new, she seems reluctant to begin, and then the blandishments of the cock, and the encouragement he gives her, are funny to see. He leads her continually to the nest-hole, warbling, and enters first; he even picks a straw himself, but drops it in the doorway!" And this again of the Tree-Creeper: "To see a pair, as I have done, in a yet bare ash tree, where a pair of Long-tailed Titmice likewise disported themselves, is to note a curious contrast in bird temperament: the one pair joyous, flitting after each other with incessant notes of love, and so absorbed as to be unconscious of watchers; the other silent and reserved, even to moroseness." In fact there is no single page in this delightful volume which does not convey the note of personal intimacy which makes Miss Armit's writing about birds so attractive. Everyone who wishes to be able to talk to children about birds should get the book.

Small Gardens, and how to make the most of them, by V. Biddle (Arthur Pearson, 1/-). Miss Biddle has written a capital little book about small gardens. Her love for her garden is to be read between the lines, but the text is all about practical matters. She talks of the general arrangement of the garden, of lawns, paths, beds and borders, of neglected but handsome plants, telling you when to get them and what they cost, of the duty of making experiments and exactly how to make them, of roses, rockeries, conservatories, table decoration, indeed of all the topics that belong to a garden. The experienced amateur gardener will find little that is new, but the inexperienced will profit by a hundred practical hints, as, for example—"if we would keep plants in good health, all dead flowers must be cut off, and regularly. This is specially important in the case of sweet peas, pansies and other free flowering plants, which become poor and soon leave off blossoming altogether if allowed to form seed-pods."

Bunyan: The Pilgrim's Progress, Grace Abounding, and The Relation of his Imprisonment, edited by Edward Venables (second edition, Clarendon Press). This is a capital and scholarly edition of perhaps the most popular and delightful of all classics. The frontispiece is an interesting portrait of John Bunyan, from a pencil drawing in the British Museum. Canon Venables furnishes an able biographical Introduction and Notes. The margins of the pages contain the Scripture references as well as the contents of the page. We are especially glad to have *Grace Abounding* in the same volume as *The Pilgrim's Progress*; because it is less good than the great allegory we lose sight of a work which should rank with the great *Confessions* of the life of the soul, for its force, *naïveté*, and perhaps exaggerated self-revelation. This edition of *Bunyan* is practically a book for the library. We could wish that the type had been better, and that the book had been graced by the delightful illustrations which adorn some earlier editions.

Home Exercise for Spinal Curvatures, by Richard Timberg, G.D. (Simpkin, Marshall, 2/- net). Dr. Timberg's little book, adapted from Ling's system of medical gymnastics, is well worth the study of parents, who should be on the watch against spinal curvatures. The simple

exercises, which are fully described and well illustrated, might be adopted in any home; the more difficult and exhausting should perhaps not be attempted except under medical advice. "It is evident," says the author, "that these exercises must be beneficial for many forms of defective development besides curvature of the spine, and also for other conditions of disturbed health."

Easy Stories, by Elizabeth Turner (Ginn & Co., Boston). "My intention," says the author, "in writing these little stories was to furnish material which little children learning to read could master without assistance." We think Miss Turner has carried out her purpose very well. Each little story tells of some event in the life of a very small child, and the minuteness of the details would interest such a child very much. Large type and pleasant pictures do their part.

Far Off, by the author of *The Peep of Day* (Longmans, 5/-). It is hardly necessary to say a word in praise of such an old, old friend. Everybody knows *Near Home* and *Far Off*. The old secret of writing books for children appears to be rather lost in our day. Nowadays children's books must be amusing at all costs, and they need be nothing else. Informing and improving children's books have had their day for the present; but perhaps we shall have to hark back to the early Victorian ideal and write books for children in which they are treated as reasonable beings, with a due share in the interests and affairs of the world. No manner of appeal to a child is so certain as this, and herein we think lies the success of the author of *The Peep of Day*. It is good to read under the heading of *Australia* of the colonists, the gold-diggers, and other such matters as interest grown-up persons and children alike. This, for example, is the sort of information we all like, children as much so as their elders: "When the digger had got his license he marked out his *claim*. A *claim* is a piece of land about as big as a small parlour. It was marked out by the trunks of trees lying on the ground," and so on. Children who read geography told in this living way care about what they learn and retain it, and, what is more, learn to realise and care about all peoples, nations and languages. For this reason the frequent appeals to the child's religious sense come in fitly and naturally. The maps are not interesting and the illustrations are unequal. The present edition has been carefully brought up to date.

The Village School Reader, arranged by C. Saville Roundell, late M.P. for the Skipton Division of the West Riding (Marshall, 1/6). Mr. Roundell prefaces his Preface by a quotation from Matthew Arnold: "It is not enough remembered in how many cases his reading book forms the whole literature, except his Bible, of the child attending a Primary School." Most heartily do we endorse the author's remark that "the best hope of kindling in the children any latent spark of imagination or sympathy lies in bringing to bear upon their minds the magic touch of the best literature." Almost all the extracts are of literary value, and have the simplicity and charm which belong to the best authors. The special value of *The Village School Reader* lies in the fact that it is compiled to help Managers and Teachers of Rural Elementary Schools to give effect to the official recommendation that the children of such schools should have

special teaching in the objects and interests of the country. Therefore nearly every passage in prose or verse illuminates some such object. We have our old friends *Eyes and No-Eyes*; Gilbert White on various subjects, chiefly his friends, the swallows. Izaak Walton describes an otter-hunt, catching a trout, and other matters; and we have quaint illustrations from *The Compleat Angler*. Miss Ormerod talks with knowledge of wasps, daddy long-legs, the wire-worm, and so on. Indeed there are few country interests that are not touched upon in prose or verse.

The Child: His Nature and Nurture, by W. B. Drummond (The Temple Cyclopaedia Primers, Dent & Co., 1/-). We have to thank Messrs. Dent & Co. for this charming and exceedingly valuable little book. Mr. Drummond writes of Nature and Nurture, *i.e.*, of the part that nature and heredity have respectively in the outcome of character; of Child Study, an interesting chapter, in which he does not suffer us to forget the child studies of the poets; possibly he claims, as results of child study, certain educational movements of which child study is rather an outcome than a cause: The Surroundings of the Child, The Care of the Infant, The Growth of the Child, with a valuable table of weights; The Senses, The Muscles, The Emotions, The Intellect, The Will, Habit, Froebel and the Kindergarten. Each of these subjects is treated with practical sense and wide information. If the little volume has a fault, we should say it is that there is too little recognition of the personality of the child. As we have had occasion to say elsewhere, we believe there is serious danger in the popular view which regards education as synonymous with environment.

The Book of the Home, edited by H. C. Davidson (The Gresham Publishing Co., 8 vols., 5/- each). Mr. Davidson, assisted by "over one hundred specialists," has produced a really valuable *Book of the Home*. The object of the editor was to produce a standard work of reference on all subjects connected with household management. The list of specialists who have aided him should inspire confidence. Everything concerning the house is brought under careful consideration, including leases, mortgages, questions of repairs, maintenance, and all matters connected with the law of landlord and tenant, together with every possible question connected with decoration and furniture. The question of servants and their duties is discussed in equal detail. Clear and complete directions are given for every branch of cleaning, cooking, and attendance. The householder is instructed in his legal position as master, husband and father, and advised as to insurance and the making of a will. The duties of the housewife are considered in detail and advice is given about shopping, account-keeping, and all matters which the mistress of a house must attend to. Dress, cycling, books, the keeping of bees, the care of children, the coming out of a daughter, and "formalities necessary before and after a marriage," fall under consideration. We wish well to the *Book of the Home*, which is a conscientious and most painstaking effort to enlighten young householders and, indeed, those of experience upon the onerous duties that fall to their lot.

Arnold's *Continuous Story Readers*. Grade I., 10d.; Grade II., 1/-; Grade III., 1/2; Grade IV., 1/4. These little books are well done. The printing, paper, illustrations and get-up are excellent. The beautiful type

should preserve the eyes of the children, and each story is full of indirect instruction, whether in morals or science or general knowledge. But we do not rejoice in these *Story Readers*. Why might not children read *literature* which is, to say the very least, as interesting, as informing, and conveys a certain intellectual stimulus which tons of *Story Readers* must fail to produce? A child brought up on *Robinson Crusoe* and Lamb's *Tales* will live all his life in a larger, sweeter world than his neighbour who has grown-up upon *Story Readers*, however well written.

Les Misérables and *Nôtre-Dame de Paris*, edited by J. Boïelle (Williams & Norgate). If we are to have *Les Misérables* and *Nôtre-Dame de Paris* in "episodes," we cannot do better than use M. Boïelle's edition. *Les Misérables*, in two volumes, contains—*Cosette*, *M. Fauchelevent*, *Marius*, *Jean Valjean*, *M. Bienvenu*, *M. Madeleine*. *Nôtre-Dame de Paris* contains—*La Question*, *Asile! Délire*, *L'Attaque sur Nôtre-Dame*, *Louis XI.*, *La Mère*, *La Catastrophe*, etc.

The Laureate Poetry Books (Nos. I. to IX., 2d. each; Arnold & Sons). We congratulate Mr. Edward Arnold upon *The Laureate Poetry Books*. There are nine numbers gradually increasing in difficulty, from *Hush-a-by-Baby* to the Shakespere number. Number VIII. is well-chosen extracts from Tennyson. Number VII. a little anthology from Dekker, Shelley, Coleridge, Kipling and many others. It appears to be an easy thing to make an anthology, but it is by no means easy to make one which shall become the reader's bosom friend. We have a notion that each of these little books will be thumbed and worn, and carried about just in the way the compiler would desire.

Carpet Plays, edited by Lucian Oldershaw (Brimley Johnson, 1/-):—*Cranford at Home: a Play for Ladies*. *Cranford*, in any shape, is delightful, but we are especially grateful to Mr. Brimley Johnson for bringing it out as a carpet play. The novel is handled with reverence and the most fastidious of us will be inclined to admit that the quaint *Cranford* ladies are very much at home on a drawing-room stage, and gain by a delicately appreciative representation. The scenes are *Miss Barker's Tea Party* and *Morning Callers at Miss Mattie's*, and *The same Three Days later*. This little play will add to the joy of Christmas in many homes.

Lip-reading, by J. A. Pollock (Simpkin, Marshall, 6d.). Miss Pollock herself has suffered the isolation of deafness, has learned lip-reading, and can converse with strangers without their knowing that she sees rather than hears all that they say. Can anything stronger be said in favour of the art of lip-reading?

A Prose Poet of Childhood (Jean Paul Richter). Selections by K. B. Sharman (Moyle, Hampstead). We owe Mrs. Sharman a great debt for admirably chosen selections from *Levana* and from the *Idylls*. Every passage chosen contains words of wisdom and, what is more, words of comfort and inspiration to be cherished by parents. We strongly commend this little book to the attention of mothers.

The Children's Quarterly. This is an especially good number. A friend writes to us of "the thirty correctly named twigs of deciduous trees," sent by a village child to a village flower-show. Children who desire to go and do likewise both with twigs and flowers, moths, birds and beetles, with

the constellations above and the fossils underfoot, will find invaluable help in *The Children's Quarterly*. We notice that the drawings in the portfolio improve quarter by quarter under Mrs. Hart Davis' criticism.

The Works of George Eliot (Warwick edition, Blackwood & Sons, each vol. 2/- net):—

The Mill on the Floss. We like the Warwick edition of George Eliot's works better than any other of the small editions we have come across. In *The Mill on the Floss* we get 822 pages in the thickness of an inch, bound so that, open the volume anywhere, and the book lies flat. The type is clear and pleasant, and the pages turn cleanly and have not the tricks of crushing and sticking so tiresome in India paper. There are three styles of binding—2/- red cloth, 2/6 and 3/-.

Felix Holt is just such another pleasant volume; easy to read and pleasant to hold.

THE "P.R." LETTER BAG.

[The Editor is not responsible for the opinions of Correspondents.]

DEAR EDITOR,—In listening to the various reports on the cure and prevention of tuberculosis, at the Congress on Tuberculosis, we were struck by the power which parents have in sheltering their children from its much dreaded invasion. First, in guarding the infant from infected persons who in all thoughtlessness repeatedly kiss its delicious baby softness. In sterilizing its milk, lest it be tainted by an infected cow. In keeping fresh air circulating in the nursery day and night, that the child's natural resistance to all infection may be strengthened. Living out in the sunshine as long as possible, and when that is impracticable inviting it into the house, feeling sure that time spent with so healthy a companion is wealth gained. Should a child have any structural or hereditary tendency to lung disease, then let the surroundings be even more hygienic, and do not shut it away from fresh air, as if in that lay the danger. Most colds are infectious, especially in unventilated rooms, and are most quickly cured when exercise is taken in the fresh air. Coughs should not be allowed to go on unattended; for in the early stage they are more easily checked and serious harm often arrested. Children with well-developed chest have the greater advantage, but a narrow or small chest can be considerably enlarged by careful physical exercise. It is well to remedy evils, but far easier to avoid them. To do this successfully many mothers must have the pluck to break away from the old laws and dare a newer but healthier mode of life for the children.

Truly yours,

EADYTH M. DAVIES.

DEAR EDITOR,—I have recently been reading a French study of co-education as practised in the Orphélinat Provost at Cempius, near Grandvilliers, in Picardy, between the years 1881-1894, under Government supervision. The book is called "Cempius" on Education Intégrale, and is, to my mind, well worthy of study by anyone interested in the

subject. Among other interesting points it is stated that at Cempius the age of puberty arrived later than is usually the case. The 200 children were given no religious education of any kind, and the head master was a Neo-Malthusian. Otherwise I think that our committee would have been delighted with the education as given at Cempius. It occurs to me that the book is well worthy of review in our journal by a competent person. A copy exists in the Board of Education Library, at St. Stephen's House, Westminster, a library which deserves to be better known. Perhaps, again, our journal might care to help to make it known. The matter contained in that library is subject-indexed, so that the portion of a book dealing with any subject—say co-education—can be readily found. I suppose want of funds renders it impossible to index our journal in a similar way; still it would, in my opinion, be a great aid to students of education if the mass of experience recorded in our journal were similarly indexed.

Yours, J. G. CURTIS.

6, The Beach, Walmer, June 26th, 1901.

P.N.E.U. NOTES.

Edited by Miss RUSSELL, Sec., 26, Victoria Street, S.W.

To whom all Hon. Local Secs. are requested to send reports of all matters of interest connected with their branches, also 30 copies of any prospectuses or other papers they may print.

N.B.—Kindly write on one side of the paper only.

I am asked by Mr. E. W. Swanton, of the Educational Museum, Haslemere, to mention that copies of the *Space-for-time history schedule*, of which mention was made in his paper at the Conference, can be had from me now. He wishes me also to apologise for the delay, and to explain that he is unable to send direct to those who applied to him, as their addresses have been lost by an unfortunate error.

(MISS) J. M. RUSSELL,

Sec. P.N.E.U.

26, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

NEW BRANCHES.

The Executive Committee has been approached with a view to starting Branches in the following places:—

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CROYDON.—Names may be sent *pro tem.* to P. Rands, Esq., Brighty, Bensham Manor Road.